

Message

From: Koppang, Michael [/O=MBGOV/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=D3A21FDA5F1D46F8A34767F784487BBE-KOPPANG, MICHAEL]
Sent: 2/13/2022 10:30:11 PM
To: Wright, David (LEG) [/o=MBGOV/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=DWright_leg]; Leitch, Donald (LEG) [/o=MBGOV/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=DLeitch_leg]; Goertzen, Kelvin (LEG) [/o=MBGOV/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=KGoertzen_leg]
CC: McNicholl, Mardi (LEG) [/o=MBGOV/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=MMcNicholl_leg]
Subject: Protest Update #18

Minister, Clerk, DM,

Emerson – Due to the blizzard conditions I understand the church service was either not conducted or minimally attended. RCMP have a meeting scheduled with the protest leadership for 09:00 tomorrow morning.

Winnipeg – No significant counter protest was held today and the protestors were uneventful. This was also likely due to the inclement weather today.

Airport – No change.

Federal – I participated in a call with Public Safety Canada and Transport Canada where they outlined a “Blockade Removal Strategy.” Only ADMs from Alberta, Ontario and Manitoba participated with PSC, TC and RCMP representation. This TC strategy essentially involved suggestions on enforcement escalation that they are proposing to all provinces and wanted our feedback. I advised that the strategy should be directed to police, but that I believed the police were aware of their escalation potential. I advised that both the WPS and RCMP were both well equipped with enforcement options and at this point did not require further enforcement powers to manage the protests. TC is currently taking an inventory of large parking lots across the country to assist in the large scale seizure of tractor trailers. I relayed that this could be helpful in the future but the current situation in Manitoba does not involve the same volume of trucks as other provinces. I was asked to brief the situation in Manitoba, which I did. It became apparent to those on the call that the situation in Manitoba was different than Alberta and Ontario, and required the police to have the operational latitude to manage the different protest sites. I did suggest two areas common to feedback received from both the RCMP and WPS that would be productive for moving towards protest resolution in Manitoba. The first was to limit derogatory or inflammatory comments directed at protestors generally, as we saw this week that increased rhetoric had a distinct and negative impact on protest participation, for both convoy and counter protestors. The second would be positive messaging around the reduction/removal of border vaccine mandates that are directly motivating protestors if that was being considered at the federal level. I was careful to explain that this perspective was not political or medical, but simply from a public safety de-escalation of the protest perspective. We have a broader FPT ADM Public Safety call tomorrow.

Mike